

ASPIRA, INC . OF NEW JERSEY  
ANNUAL REPORT

NAME: RAMONA SANTIAGO  
DATE: JULY 8,1991

UNIT: MERCER COUNTY  
PROGRAM: LEADERSHIP

## I. INTRODUCTION:

On November 27, 1989 I became a counselor for the Leadership Development program at the Mercer County office located in Trenton, N.J., I was assigned to Junior high # 2. In September 1990, I was move to another school, Trenton central high. I work in the ASPIRA office Monday and Friday and the rest of the week I work in the school. I am the Educational Counselor as november 27 1989. Ms. Aida Vasques, Ms. Maria Garces, Mr. Macklock and Ms. Placencia have been extremely supportive to the program and very helpful on terms of referrals and information. They are very happy that ASPIRA is helping the Hispanic needs.

## II. HIGHLIGHTS

I feel that two events were very important. The Talent Show and The Youth Congress Conference. The Youth Congress it was interesting for them because the workshops were about problems that the hispanics confront in this generation, and the Talent show because they learned to be leaders and to works as a group at the same time they learned to respect diferents opinions and to agree in things that were right.

In the school I met with the students in the cafeteria I talk to them while they were eating wich is is when they are more relaxed, I shared with them just like another friend so they were not intimidated by an office full of adults. I found with this approach the students were more trusting and open about they feelings. They had assess to me three days out of the week. When I felt it necessary for the student to have privacy I will go to the community room were it was available for our use. If I missed even one day in school or a meeting the students would inquire my whereabouts. They know that I am here for them.

### III. CASELOAD DATA:

The beginning caseload for the 1990-1991 program year totaled 30 students. An additional 95 students completed intakes. As a result, a total of 125 students received services from Aspira throughout the program year. Of this number, 58 or 46.40 of the active caseload were males and 67 or 53.60% were females. Furthermore, an additional 114 students that were not on the caseload received services, bringing the total of students serviced to 239 for the program year of 1990-1991.

-The ethnicity number and percentage of the total cumulative active caseload is as follows:

* 70	or 56.0%	-----	Puerto Rican (Mainland)
* 32	or 25.6%	-----	Puerto Rican (Island)
* 0	or 0.0%	-----	Dominican
* 10	or 8.0%	-----	Other Hispanic
* 6	or 4.8%	-----	Black
* 5	or 4.0%	-----	Other
* 2	or 1.6%	-----	Asian

-Income profile of number and percentage of cumulative active caseload:

* 53	or 42.4%	-----	Public assistance
* 1	or 0.8%	-----	\$2,000--\$4,310
* 0	or 0.0%	-----	\$4,311--\$5,600
* 0	or 0.0%	-----	\$5,601--\$7,070
* 1	or 0.8%	-----	\$7,071--\$8,450
* 0	or 0.0%	-----	\$8,451--\$9,830
* 2	or 1.6%	-----	\$9,831--\$11,210
* 16	or 12.8%	-----	\$11,211--\$14,000
* 52	or 41.6%	-----	\$14,001-Above

-IN TERMS OF THE CLOSE CASES, THE BREAKDOWN IS AS FOLLOWS:

#### Male and Female

	Number	Percentage
* Male	25	39 %
* Female	38	60 %
* TOTAL	63	99 %

-IN TERMS OF CLOSE CASES, THE BREAKDOWN IS AS FOLLOWS:  
(Con't)

Ethnicity

	Number	Percentage
* Blacks	4	6.3 %
* Asian	1	1.5 %
* Puerto Rican (Island)	22	34.9 %
* Puerto Rican (Mainland)	28	44.4 %
* Other Hispanic	6	9.5 %
* Other	2	3.1 %
* TOTAL	63	99.7 %

Income

	Number	Percentage
* Public Assistance	27	42.8 %
* \$4311 - \$5600	1	1.5 %
* \$5601 - \$7070	0	0 %
* \$7071 - \$8450	0	0 %
* \$8451 - \$9830	0	0 %
* \$9831 - \$11210	1	1.5 %
* \$11211 - \$14000	4	6.4 %
* \$14000 - Above	30	47.6 %
* TOTAL	63	99.7%

-IN TERMS OF THE BEGINNING CASELOAD FOR THE NEXT PROGRAM  
YEAR,

THE BREAKDOWN IS AS FOLLOWS:

Male and Female

	Number	Percentage
* Male	33	43.23 %
* Female	29	46.77 %
* TOTAL	62	90.0%

-IN TERMS OF THE BEGINNING CASELOAD FOR THE NEXT PROGRAM YEAR,

THE BREAKDOWN IS AS FOLLOWS: (CON'T)

Ethnicity

	Number	Percentage
* Black	2	3.2 %
* Puerto Rican (Island)	10	16.1 %
* Puerto Rican (Mainland)	42	67.7 %
* Other Hispanic	4	6.45 %
* Other	3	4.8 %
* Asian	1	1.6 %
* TOTAL	62	90 %

Income

	Number	Percentage
* \$7071 - \$8450	1	1.6 %
* \$9831 - 11210	1	1.6 %
* \$11211- 14000	12	19.3 %
* \$14000- Above	22	35.4 %
* TOTAL	62	90 %

IV. COUNSELING SESSIONS:

The Leadership Program generated 831 counseling sessions during the 1990-91 school year. Its breakdown is as follows:

	Number	Percentage
* Initial Session	95	11.4 %
* Career Counseling	101	12.1 %
* Academic Counseling	457	54.9 %
* Admissions Counseling	31	3.7 %
* Financial Aid Counseling	19	2.2 %
* Personal Counseling	84	10.10%
* Home Visits	19	2.2 %
* Club Meetings	21	2.5 %

* Referrals	3	0.36X
* TOTAL	831	96.46X

#### V. RECRUITMENT STRATEGIES:

The strategies implemented to recruit students consisted of visits to homes and schools, referrals from guidance counselors and other school personnel, club-meetings, posting flyers at the schools, telephone calls, and person to person contact. The established network with the different Hispanic agencies in the area also contributed to the program's recruitment efforts.

#### VI. PLACEMENT:

The unduplicated number of students that applied for placement is 38. Its was a total of 152 applications generated , 34 students Granted admissions, and 4 students still pending.

#### Vii. Promotional Status

A Total of 81 students were promoted to next grade.

#### Viii. Retention

A total of 14 students remainig in summer school in order to be promoted to the next grade.

#### VII. A) Program Activities:

1. Puertorican Parade, Trenton, August, ✓
2. Legal Career Conference , Justice Complex, Trenton ✓  
October 25 th.
3. Restreat , Blairstown, October 19,20,21. ✓
4. Birth control workshop, Trenton Central High, ✓  
November 13.
5. Carrers Conference, Rutgers Camden, November 20. ✓
6. Cultural awarness, Rider College, Lareceville, ✓  
November 30.
7. Practice for the ASPIRA night, Trenton central high, ✓

November 13,14,15,19,20,21,26.

8. Career Workshop, Trenton Central High, December 11✓

9. Health Career Conference, Jersey City State College, March 11. ✓

10. Aids workshop, Trenton Central High, March 12. ✓

11. College Application Workshop, Trenton Central High, March 14. ✓

12. Financial aid workshop, Trenton Central high, March 14, 1991. ✓

13. Youth Congress, Rutgers University, April 22. ✓

14. Aids presentation, Trenton high, April 16. ✓

15. ASPIRA talent show practice, Trenton high, April 9, 11, 16, 18, 23, 25, 30. ✓

16. Rider College retreat, Lawrenceville, April 26, 27. ✓

17. Trenton State weekend retreat, Trenton, April 26, 27, 28. ✓

18. ASPIRA talent show practice, Trenton, High, May ✓

19. Awards Night Ceremony, Princeton University, June 7. ✓

20. Talent Show, State Museum Auditorium, Trenton, June 14, 1991. ✓

### III. CLUB ACTIVITIES

Activity	Date	# of students
Club Meeting	Sept, 18	23
Officers Meeting	Sept, 19	7
Club Meeting	Sept, 25	22
Officers Meeting	Sept, 27	6
Club Meeting	Oct, 9	37
Officers Meeting	Oct, 11	5
Club Meeting	Oct, 16	37
Officers Meeting	Oct, 18	5
Club Meeting	Oct, 23	37
Club Meeting	Oct, 24	18
Club Meeting	Nov, 13	51
Club Meeting	Dec, 4	36
Club Meeting	Dec, 11	37
Field Trip	Dec, 3	10
Bake Sale	Dec, 7	5
Club Meeting	Jan, 15	33
Club Meeting	Jan, 22	30
Club Meeting	Feb, 5	18
Club Meeting	Feb, 12	34

Flower Sale	Feb, 14	7
Club Meeting	Feb, 19	25
Club Meeting	Feb, 26	26
Club Meeting	March, 5	26
Club Meeting	March, 12	35
Club Meeting	April, 9	59
Club Meeting	April, 16	35
Club Meeting	May, 7	32

#### IX. STAFF DEVELOPMENT:

1. Interview for the coordinator position, Essex County, Aug 15.
2. Meeting with Carmen Flores, Trenton, August 16.
3. Staff Training, Newark, August 20 to 24.
4. Essex county, Newark, September 4.
5. Staff Training, Essex County, Newark, September 10.
6. Meeting with Carmen Flores, Justice Complex, September.
7. Meeting with Principal, Trenton High September 12.
8. ASPIRA Friends Meeting, Trenton, September 12.
9. Staff Training, Essex County, September 13.
10. Staff Training, Essex County, September 14.
11. Meeting with Ms. Garces, Trenton High, September 17.
12. Assembly, Trenton High, September 18.
13. Heritage comitee meeting, City Hall, Trenton, September 24.
14. Meeting with Mr./ Robstein, Junior 3 2, Trenton, september 24.
15. Meeting with Carmen Flores, Justice Complex, Trenton, September 27.
16. Meeting in Rider College, Larenceville, September 27.
17. Staff Meeting, Trenton Center, October 5.
18. Domestic violence workshop, Congreso Boricua, October 2.
19. Meeting w/ Carmen Flores, October 3.
20. Meeting w/ Carmen Flores, October 12.
21. Meeting w/ Puertorican Heritage Committee, city Hall, october 11.
22. Meeting w/ Carmen Gonzales, Central high, October 24.
23. Open House, Trenton central, October 16.
24. Comcast Television interview with Mayor Palmer, Trenton, October 30.
25. Staff Meeting, Trenton, November 2.
26. Staff training, Mercer County, Trenton, November 2.
27. Meeting w/ Reene Wells, School Based, Trenton November 9.
28. Meeting w/ Mr De Jesus, T.C.H, Trenton November 9.

29. Meeting w/ Carmen Gozales, T.C.H, Trenton, December 11,19.
30. Meeting w/ Morrison, T.C.H, Trenton, December 12,17.
31. ASPIRA'S Luncheon , Newark, December 26.
32. Unit Meeting, Mercer county, Trenton January16.
33. E.O.F , Luncheon, Hiatt,Princeton, January 25.
34. Regional Staff meeting,Camden Center,February 8.
35. Unit Meeting, Mercer center, February 13.
36. Public presentation, New Jersey Network, February 28.
37. ASPIRA annual Luncheon,Quality Inn, Newark, March 6.
38. Meeting at Trenton State college, Mr. Boatwright, March 8.
39. Meeting w/ Roberto Del Rio, Mercer center, March 20.
40. Unit Meeting,March 13.
41. Meeting w/ Claudio Mirr, March 20.
42. Staff Meeting,Essex County, April 5.
43. Meeting w/ Carmen Rivera Puertorican Congress, April 17.
44. Meeting w/ Carmen Rivera Puertorican Congress, April24.
45. Unit Meeting, April 8.
46. Friends Of ASPIRA Fundraising Dinner, April 25.

#### **X. RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND OTHER COMMENTS:**

Carlos Pacheco  
Affirmative Action  
City Hall  
Trenton N.J.  
(609) 989-3369

Dr. Sigfredo Hernandez  
Assistant Profesor in Marketing  
Rider College  
2083 Lawrenceville road  
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(609) 895-5509

Mr. James Boatwright  
Trenton State College  
E.O.F Director  
(609) 771- 2820

Victoria Rivera - Cruz  
Legislative Aid  
City Hall  
Trenton ,N.J.  
(609) 989-3030

Marina Padovani  
Health Educator  
City Hall  
Trenton, N.J.  
(609) 989-3291  
Claudio0 Mirr  
Congreso Boricua  
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Carmen Flores  
Affirmative Action  
State of N.J.  
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(609) 633-6537

David Morales  
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Maria Garces  
Trenton Central High  
Guidance Counselor  
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Honorable Carmen Garcia  
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